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IGC Security Upgrades Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What gives IDOA the authority to implement weapons restrictions?

A. The installation of security equipment was an operational decision made by IDOA in conjunction with the Indiana State Police and upon the recommendation of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Council (C-TASC). C-TASC membership includes various agency heads from the executive branch, judges from the Court of Appeals, legislators from the General Assembly, staff from the US Attorneys Office, and representatives of local law enforcement.

Upon the recommendation of C-TASC, IDOA adopted <u>25 IAC 8</u>, which requires the restriction of weapons within Government Center buildings. Specific documentation pertaining to that rule-making process available in LSA #06-417(F) and LSA #418(F), published in the <u>Indiana Register</u>.

Q: What constitutes a weapon?

A: A weapon has been defined in the Administrative rule that enables weapons restrictions (25 IAC 8) as follows:

- A loaded or unloaded firearm (as defined in IC 35-47-1-5).
- A destructive device, weapon, device, taser (as defined in <u>IC 35-47-8-3</u>), electronic stun weapon (as defined in <u>IC 35-47-8-1</u>), or stun gun (as defined in <u>IC 35-47-8-2</u>), equipment, including knives, chemical substance, or other material, that, in the manner it is used, or could ordinarily be used, or is intended to be used, is readily capable of causing serious bodily injury.
- A biological disease, virus, or organism that is capable of causing serious bodily injury.

Items such as small key ring pocket knives and similar tools will be evaluated by Capitol Police officers on a case-by-case basis with the expectation that such tools will not be restricted.

Q. Are Law Enforcement Officers exempt from the weapons restrictions?

A: Yes. A federal, state, or local law enforcement officer or a person who has been employed or authorized by the state to provide security protection and services is exempt from the restriction.

Q: I use the tunnel system to get from building to building. Will that now be restricted or will our access cards allow us movement through the tunnels?

A: An access card is not needed to move between IGC North and IGC South via the lower level tunnels, however, the tunnel connecting IGC South to One North Capitol will no longer be accessible without use of an Access Card.

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Q: I don't think my access card works at the doors I use regularly. What can I do?

A: Access privileges are determined by an employee's supervisor. Changes to your access card privileges can be made via email. Simply have your supervisor send an email to the access control office (aco@idoa.in.gov) with your name and updated needs.

Q: I work in Indiana Government Center, but I forgot my access card. How can I gain entry to my building?

A: Anyone without an access card must use a designated public entrances to enter the Indiana Government Center.

Q: I have a medical device that prohibits me from walking through a metal detector or being scanned with a wand. What do I need to do to enter Government Center?

A. Notify the Capitol Police Officer staffing the entrance. An alternate method of security screening will be used to ensure compliance with the weapons restrictions.